

developed innovative ways to grow produce in the desert. Lacking energy, it has pioneered advances in solar and wind energy. Lacking security, it has built some of the most effective defensive systems to ensure the safety and welfare of its people.

Given its record of innovation, it makes sense that Israel has more high tech start ups than any other country in the world other than the United States and is a global leader in medicine. Israeli inventions have revolutionized communication, agriculture, imaging and other industries.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 68th Israeli Independence Day. Today we rejoice in Israel's success, embrace its people, and renew our nation's commitment to standing alongside Israel in defense of its right to safety and prosperity.

TRIBUTE FOR CAL AND SANDY  
RUNYON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. HAROLD ROGERS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th wedding anniversary of a beloved couple in Eastern Kentucky, my dear friends, Cal and Sandy Runyon of Pikeville.

Cal and Sandy's commitment and love for one another is equally as strong as their devotion and loyal service to the people of Eastern Kentucky. I say that with confidence due to their combined decades of service in multiple capacities to our nation, our commonwealth and our region.

Sandy faithfully served as my Field Representative for nearly a decade. In fact, she still tries to keep me in line, advising and providing guidance about projects and politics in the Big Sandy region. She is a friend to many and has mentored countless young people and rising leaders by taking them under her wing. Sandy started in public service at a young age, landing her first job with former Pike County Commonwealth's Attorney Thomas Ratliff, and continuing on with the State Highway Department in Pikeville, serving as a former representative for the Southern Labor Union, and finally earning a gubernatorial appointment as former Pike County Circuit Court Clerk. Today, her heart of service reaches Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin and Pike Counties as Executive Director of the Big Sandy Area Development District. She has diligently sought out economic development opportunities and infrastructure enhancements to expand clean water and sewer service to people living in some of our most rural communities. She's known for getting things done in a no-nonsense approach and doesn't accept excuses. Sandy is tenacious and fights for projects that will improve the lives of Eastern Kentuckians. For those reasons, former Governor Louie B. Nunn designated Sandy as a bonafide Kentucky Colonel.

While Sandy has worked tirelessly for project funding, Cal has spent a lifetime serving and protecting our way of life. As a Corporal in the U.S. Marines, Cal served in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and a number of other posts around the world. He later served as a member of the United States Army Security

Agency (USASA) in Kushiro, Japan, working in cryptography communications. When Cal returned to U.S. soil, he continued to serve through the Pike County Sheriff's Department, Pikeville City Police Department, and as a Deputy U.S. Marshal Court Security Officer. He is also a Shriner and 32nd Degree Mason in Pikeville.

As individuals, they have helped transform Kentucky's Appalachian region. As a couple, they have conquered the obstacles of life, upheld their wedding vows for 50 years and shared a love that so many people spend a lifetime searching for. As a result, they have one son, Eddie, a daughter-in-law, Yvette, and two wonderful grandchildren, Triniti Shae and Jonah Brock Runyon.

My wife, Cynthia, and I wish Cal and Sandy a happy 50th Anniversary and many more years of marital bliss.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF SACRAMENTO  
CHILDREN'S HOME

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Sacramento Children's Home. As the staff, volunteers, and community supporters gather to celebrate this momentous occasion and the beautiful renovations on their historic home, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding organization.

I know firsthand the incredible impact the Children's home has on our community. I have long been a supporter of the Sacramento Children's Home and I formerly served as a member of their board. I will continue to offer my support in any way that I can because I believe in their mission to serve our community's most vulnerable families. By supporting both children and parents, to create happier, more stable families, the Sacramento Children's Home is making an invaluable investment in our community.

Founded on February 14th, 1867, the Sacramento Children's home began as an orphanage for abandoned children during the time of the Gold Rush. Since then, the Sacramento Children's home has continued to serve the most urgent needs of children with unwavering dedication. Today, the Sacramento Children's Home provides a variety of services to children and families, including counseling, emergency childcare, and programs promoting healthy parenting. These wraparound programs and resources, many of which are provided at no cost to the family, fight and protect against child abuse and neglect in our community.

Mr. Speaker, as the Sacramento Children's Home gathers to celebrate their renovated home on their 150th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring 150 years of service to Sacramento's children and families.

ASSAULTING PROPERTY RIGHTS  
TO ONE'S INVENTIONS

**HON. DANA ROHRBACHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 8, 2016*

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues an analysis of our recent government actions toward intellectual property rights titled "Assaulting Property Rights to One's Inventions," which shows how we are undermining our position as the world leader in innovation and preventing the creation of new wealth.

For a country with a momentous beginning, whose intellectual-property-rights approach produced the most iconic inventors and inventions in the world, recent changes to America's patent system should be alarming.

Mark Twain wrote, "[A] country without a patent office and good patent laws was just a crab and couldn't travel any way but sideways or backwards."

America made writing "good patent laws" that secure intellectual property rights a high priority. The Founders enumerated the Patent Clause in Article I, Section 8 of our Constitution—the only individual right named in the Constitution itself.

The Founders moved quickly to implement this property right. The Patent Act of 1790 was the third law enacted by the first Congress.

What did the Founders regard as "good patent law?" Deeding newly created property to its creator. One that democratized the property right to one's inventions. The 1790 law achieved this by awarding a patent to the "first and true inventor."

But lately, Congress, the courts and the administrative branch have diverted America toward the way of the crab. Our own government has whittled away at our patent system, degraded patent rights, devalued patents and IP and diminished inherent property rights.

What would inventors like Thomas Edison, the Wright Brothers and Alexander Graham Bell think about this new direction? Or Founders such as James Madison?

In recent years, Congress has shifted patent terms to 20 years from when a patent is applied for, though the average patent application pendency is 36 months—far longer for sophisticated inventions.

Congress changed the law to require virtually all patent applications to be published 18 months after filing, even if no patent has issued. That's a problem because it gives IP thieves a head start by providing them an invention's blueprints early. If a patent doesn't issue, disclosure makes the invention "prior art" and unpatentable.

Congress enacted the antiproperty-rights "America Invents Act." AIA denies inventors de novo judicial review if the patent office invalidates a patent. AIA also lets patent infringers off the hook if they used someone's patented invention for a year before a patent was filed. It seriously disrupts the one-year grace period, when inventors could discuss their ideas with investors and partners, improve their details and make a stronger patent application.

The AIA allows third parties to anonymously submit "prior art" while a patent application is being considered. Use of an invention anywhere in the world now makes an invention subject to being invalidated here.